

REMARKS

The independent claims (1 and 8) have been amended to specify that the gain curve of emergent light from the diffusion sheet has no minimal point "with respect to a direction perpendicular to the plurality of groove channels." The added language is clearly supported by Fig. 3 and the related discussion in the specification.

With the present invention, even when a person observes a spot image as the viewing angle changes, the viewed image does not suddenly change from a "dark" state to a "bright" state and vice versa. Further, the image has a uniform brightness in general, when observing a wide image, appearing normal to the viewer; see page 5, lines 27 to 36 of the specification.

The indication of claims 2 and 4 contain allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation. Applicants respectfully submit for reasons appearing below that all claims are patentable.

The rejection of claims 1, 3, and 5 to 8 under 35 USC 102 as anticipated by Moshrefzadeh et al. '966 is respectfully traversed. The Examiner referred to Fig. 6B of the reference, which is said to show a vertical gain with no minimal point.

Serial No.: 10/6487,798

Applicants respectfully submit that Fig. 6B of the reference does not correspond to Fig. 3 of the present application because the directions of viewing angle are different; indeed, they are perpendicular to each other. The figure of the reference more directly related to instant Fig. 3 is reference Fig. 6A. The curves in those drawings are completely different, however, and the teachings of the reference do not teach the invention claimed here. The rejection should be withdrawn.

Enclosed as required is a new Abstract.

The Examiner is thanked for acknowledging receipt of the certified copy of the priority document and for listing the references submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement.

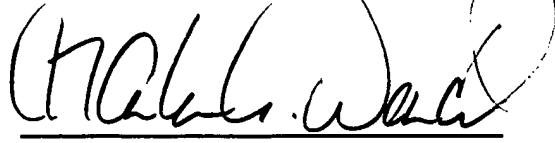
In view of the foregoing revisions and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the case is in immediate condition for allowance and a USPTO paper to those ends is earnestly solicited.

Serial No.: 10/6487,798

The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if additional changes are required in the case prior to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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Enclosure:

Clean copy of Abstract

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IN THE ABSTRACT:

Replace the Abstract with the following:

Abstract

~~The present invention relates to a~~ A diffusion sheet for use in a transmission-type screen comprising a main diffusion layer having an incidence surface and an emergence surface which are parallel to each other, ~~the main diffusion layer diffusing a light, which is substantially perpendicularly incident on the incidence surface, in a diffusion direction to be emitted from the emergence surface.~~ A plurality of groove channels each having a substantially V-shaped cross-section are disposed in parallel ~~to one another on the emergence surface of the main diffusion layer, and each groove channel are formed by two planes, curved surfaces, or bent planes which are joined to each other in the main diffusion layer.~~ A region sandwiched between the adjacent two groove channels provides a rib with a substantially trapezoidal cross-section, ~~while the planes, curved surfaces, or bent planes which form each groove channel provide side surfaces of the rib.~~ The light substantially perpendicularly incident on the incidence surface is reflected

Serial No.: 10/6487,798

on the side surfaces of the rib ~~so that the light is diffused in the diffusion direction.~~ An assisting diffusion layer is disposed on the side of the emergence surface of the main diffusion layer, or on both sides of the emergence surface and the incidence surface of the main diffusion layer, ~~the assisting diffusion layer having a light diffusion component for diffusing a light at least in the same direction as the diffusion direction.~~ The light diffusion component of the assisting diffusion layer is adjusted such that a gain curve of an emergent light from the diffusion sheet has no minimal point.